day is in advanced stage of construction. The project is attached to Madras Atomic Power Station (MAPS), Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu.

BARC has also set up Desalination Plants at Sheelgaon village in Barmer district, Rajasthan [30,000 litres/day capacity] and Satlana village in Jodhpur district [30,000] litres/ day capacity] in cooperation with Defence Laboratory, Jodhpur (Rajasthan) for provding drinking water from bore well/brackish water sources.

BARC has recently set up Desalination Plant [5000 litres/day capacity] in the Tsunami affected area of Nagapattinam in Tamil Nadu for providing drinking water.

(d) The Cost of Desalination of water depends on the location of the plant, the impurity and salt content of water and the capacity of plant. For a Reverse Osmosis (RO) Plant the cost of Desalination of sea water would be around 5 paise per litre and for brackish water Desalination the cost works out to around 2 to 5 paise per litre.

Coal imports due to non-fulfilment of coal demand by industries

†4489. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to non-fulfilment of coal demand major coal consumer industries in the country are importing the coal;

(b) if so, the major coal consuming industries during the year 2002-2003, 2003-04, and 2004-05 alongwith the quantum of the coal imported by them separately; and

(c) the percentage of the demand of these industries fulfilled by the said import?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Coal companies by and large have been able to supply coal to the major coal consumer industries as per the approved linkages. However owing to gap between the demand made by the consumers and the indigenous coal production, major consumers have been impressed upon to import coal to bridge the gap.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Power, steel and cement are the major coal consuming industries importing coal. The quantities of coal imported by these industries during the year 2002-03, 2003-04 & 2004-05 are given in following table:

(Figures in million tones)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05*
Coking Coal(Steel/Cokeries)	12.94	12.99	10.79
Non-coking coal			7.50**
Power (Utilities)	3.17	1.42	
Cement	3.66	2.50	
Others	3.49	4.77	
Total	23.26	21.68	18.30

*Provisional and from Apr '04 to Dec '04.
**Sector Wise Break Up Not Available.

(c) Since Govt./*Coal India Limited* do not import coal and consumers are free to import coal without any restriction, the fulfilment of demand through imported coal totally depends on the successful import transactions made by the consumers.

Supreme Court's environmental guidelines regarding coal mines

4490. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court has recently put a ban on coal mining unless the environmental rules and strictly followed;

(b) if so, the details of these environmental rules and whether these are being followed; and

(c) if not, whether the Coal mining has been stopped in compliance of the Supreme Court's ban?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO); (a) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide* its order dated 21.2.2005 in W.P. (Civil) No.460 of 2004 directed closure of defaulting units which operate in violation of environmental laws. 55 coal mines of Coal India Limited (CIL) came under such order.